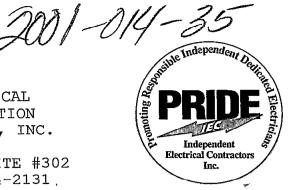


Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.
South Florida Chapter

INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER, INC.

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May 5, 2001

Ms. Laurie Duarte General Services Administration FAR Secretariat (MVR) 1800 F St. NW, Room 4035 Washington, DC 20405

Re: FAR Case: 2001-014

Dear Ms. Duarte:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Independent Electrical Contractors Association, South Florida Chapter, Inc. IEC South Florida represents over 50 members, with 2100 employees, who have an interest in the federal government receiving fair value in its contracts for goods and services. We are very pleased to note the important policy initiatives proposed in the Federal Acquisition Regulations, April 3, 2001 edition of the Federal Register.

The actions taken in the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Federal Register will bring to closure the acquisitions policy initiated in FAR Case 1999-010. It is important that it be overturned because it is a redundant policy with both unwise applications and a multitude of unforeseeable consequences. It exposed small business to unfair denial of federal contracts based on any violation of a vast array of complicated federal laws in the past three years. This would mean that even unproven allegations or citations from the past that had been resolved could keep a company from winning federal contracts.

Important reforms in acquisition policy are clearly needed to open up opportunities for small business and independent contractors. We hope that GSA and the FAR Secretariat can turn their attention to the important procompetitive provisions required for the future.

W Holstein

Robert W. Holstein, FCSI

Executive Director

For the Board and Members

Cc: Board/Members